



OFFICIAL NOTICE & AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Parks & Recreation Committee
DATE/TIME: Monday, July 6, 2026, at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Sarah Watson (C) Kristin Slonski
Tom Neal (VC) Bruce Trueblood
Carol Lukens

- 1 Public comment on agenda items and reading of the City of Wausau Public Comment Statement.**
- 2 Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).**
Regular Parks and Recreation Committee June 1, 2026 Minutes
- 3 Discussion and possible action.**
 - a. West Hill Subdivision, West Addition — Preliminary Plat Park Dedication
 - b. Riverlife Wharf Funding
 - c. Urban Forestry Plan - Emerald Ash Borer, Invasive Species, Plantings, Grant, General Maintenance
 - d. Maintenance Contract with Central Wisconsin Offroad Cycling Coalition for Sylvan Hill Bike Trails
- 4 Discussion.**
 - a. Park Updates (City Ball Diamonds, Athletic Park, Alexander Airport, Brockmeyer, Isle of the Ferns, Kaiser Pool, Oak Island, Riverlife, Yawkey, Mowing)
- 5 Adjournment.**

Sarah Watson, Chairperson

NOTICE POSTED AT CITY HALL (407 GRANT STREET) AND
TRANSMITTED TO THE OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED NEWSPAPER

DATE:
TIME:
POSTED BY:



This meeting can be viewed on
YouTube and Channel 981 on Cable TV

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City of Wausau
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wausauwi.gov





OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Parks & Recreation Committee
DATE/TIME: Monday, June 1, 2026, at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Tom Neal Kristin Slonski
Sarah Watson Bruce Trueblood
Carol Lukens

Members Present: Kristin Slonski, Carol Lukens, Tom Neal, Sarah Watson, Bruce Trueblood
Members Not Present:
Members Excused:
Present 5, Not Present 0, Excused 0

Noting the presence of a quorum, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 05:17 PM.

1 Call to Order by the Clerk.

2 Elect Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the 2026-2028 term of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Nominations for Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee were opened.
Lukens nominated Sarah Watson. Watson accepted the nomination.

Motion by Alderperson Neal, seconded by Alderperson Trueblood, to Close nominations for Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Motion Passed 5-0.

Nominations were closed and a vote was taken.

Sarah Watson was elected as Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee on a vote of 5-0 for the 2026 - 2028 term.

Nominations for Vice Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee were opened.
Slonski nominated Tom Neal. Neal accepted the nomination.

Motion by Alderperson Lukens, seconded by Alderperson Slonski, to Close nominations for Vice Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Motion Passed 5-0.

Nominations were closed and a vote was taken.

Tom Neal was elected as Vice Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee on a vote of 5-0 for the 2026 - 2028 term.

3 Establish regular meeting date and time for the 2026-2028 term of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

It was a consensus of the committee members to keep the regular meeting date for the Parks and Recreation Committee as the first Monday of each month at 5:15pm.

4 Public comment on agenda items and reading of the City of Wausau Public Comment Statement.

No public comment

5 Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).

Regular Parks and Recreation Committee March 2, 2026 Minutes

Motion by Alderperson Neal, seconded by Alderperson Lukens, to approve the Regular Parks and Recreation Committee March 2, 2026 Minutes. Motion Passed 5-0.

6 Discussion and possible action.

- a. Adopting Revisions to the City Park Suspension Policy Adopted Pursuant to W.M.C. 9.20.020

Polley reviewed the revisions proposed to the City Park Suspension Policy that had been adopted pursuant to W.M.C. 9.20.020. Revisions were made in partnership with the Wausau Police Department to reflect current practice. Additional revisions were made to update the correct name of the department. Questions were asked.

Motion by Alderperson Trueblood, seconded by Alderperson Lukens, to approve the Revisions to the City Park Suspension Policy Adopted Pursuant to W.M.C. 9.20.020. Motion 5-0.

7 Discussion.

- a. Park Updates (400 Block, Alexander Airport, Athletic, Brockmeyer, Kaiser Pool, Riverlife, Schulenberg Pool, Yawkey, Forestry, Encampments)

Polley reviewed the park updates. Additional comments were made regarding ticks at Brockmeyer Park. Questions were asked about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and the goats at Barker Stewart Island. A request was made to have the City Forester provide the committee with an update at a future meeting on the EAB plan and invasive species.

8 Adjournment.

Motion by Alderperson Neal, seconded by Alderperson Slonski, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 05:45 PM.

The recording of this meeting may be viewed on
YouTube [@CityofWausauMeetings](#)



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Parks, Recreation, Forestry

DATE: July 6, 2026
TO: Parks & Recreation Committee
SUBJECT: West Hill Subdivision, West Addition – Preliminary Plat Park Dedication

PURPOSE

The Parks and Recreation Committee is asked to provide comments regarding park dedication requirements.

BACKGROUND

Per City of Wausau 2022-2027 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, parkland dedication of buildable land is desired in gap areas identified on page 111 of the plan. <https://www.marathoncounty.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/12269/638429150727700000>

The proposed development falls within a gap area. Therefore, per the plan, land would be recommended rather than the payment of park dedication fees due to a lack of neighborhood park in this area. Parkland dedication is calculated per City Code 21.16.085 based on final lot counts. The estimated parkland required per the plan submitted and reviewed in Evolve on June 23, 2026, is 3.06 acres. If the City accepts a preliminary plat without parkland, the amount of parkland dedication fees due in lieu of land would be calculated based on final lot counts per type of lot.

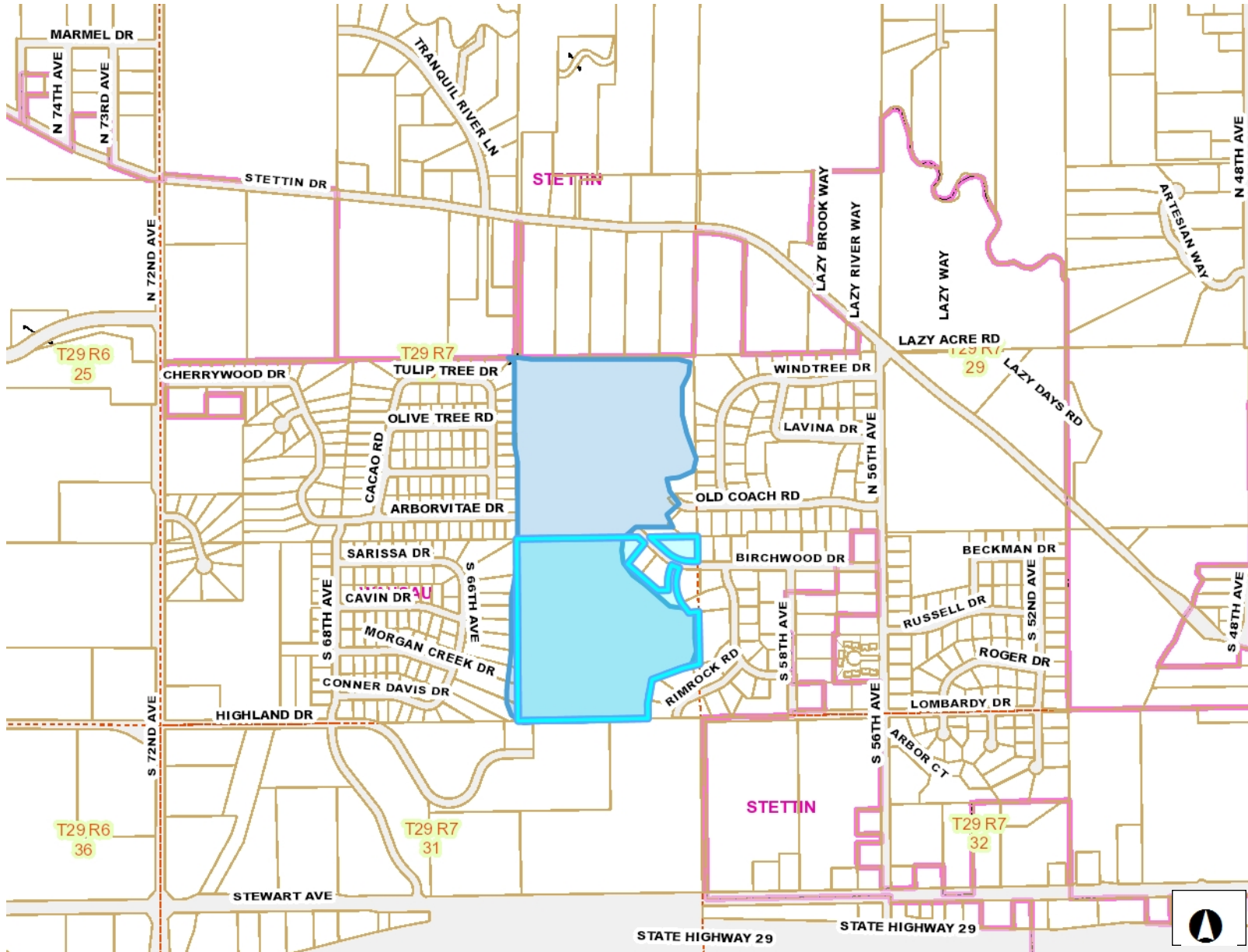
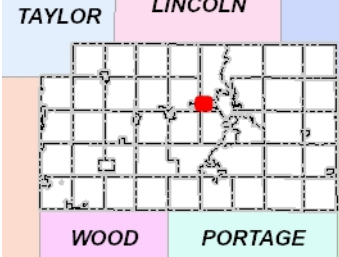
Additional items to consider regarding parkland;
Parkland is recommended to be contiguous. If required parkland cannot be identified as acceptable, payment in lieu of land will be required for the difference per city code 21.16.085.

Per City of Wausau 2022-2027 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan a park within this development would be a Neighborhood Park which is defined as an area for multiple and sometimes intensive recreational activities. Facilities may include athletic fields, sport courts, playgrounds, picnic areas and splash pads. Neighborhood parks typically do not have permanent restroom facilities. Desirable size is between 3 to 10 acres.

Parkland around the perimeter of the development and behind lots not accessible will not be accepted. City will accept non-parkland open space to preserve natural habitat and wetlands. This land will not account for park dedication.

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks and Recreation Committee is asked to provide a recommendation to the City Council on park land dedication for the West Hill subdivision, west addition's proposed preliminary plat.



- ### Legend
- Road Names
 - Parcels
 - Parcel Lot Lines
 - Land Hooks
 - Section Lines/Numbers
 - Right Of Ways
 - Named Places
 - Municipalities

541.05 0 541.05 Feet

NAD_1983_HARN_WISCRS_Marathon_County_Feet

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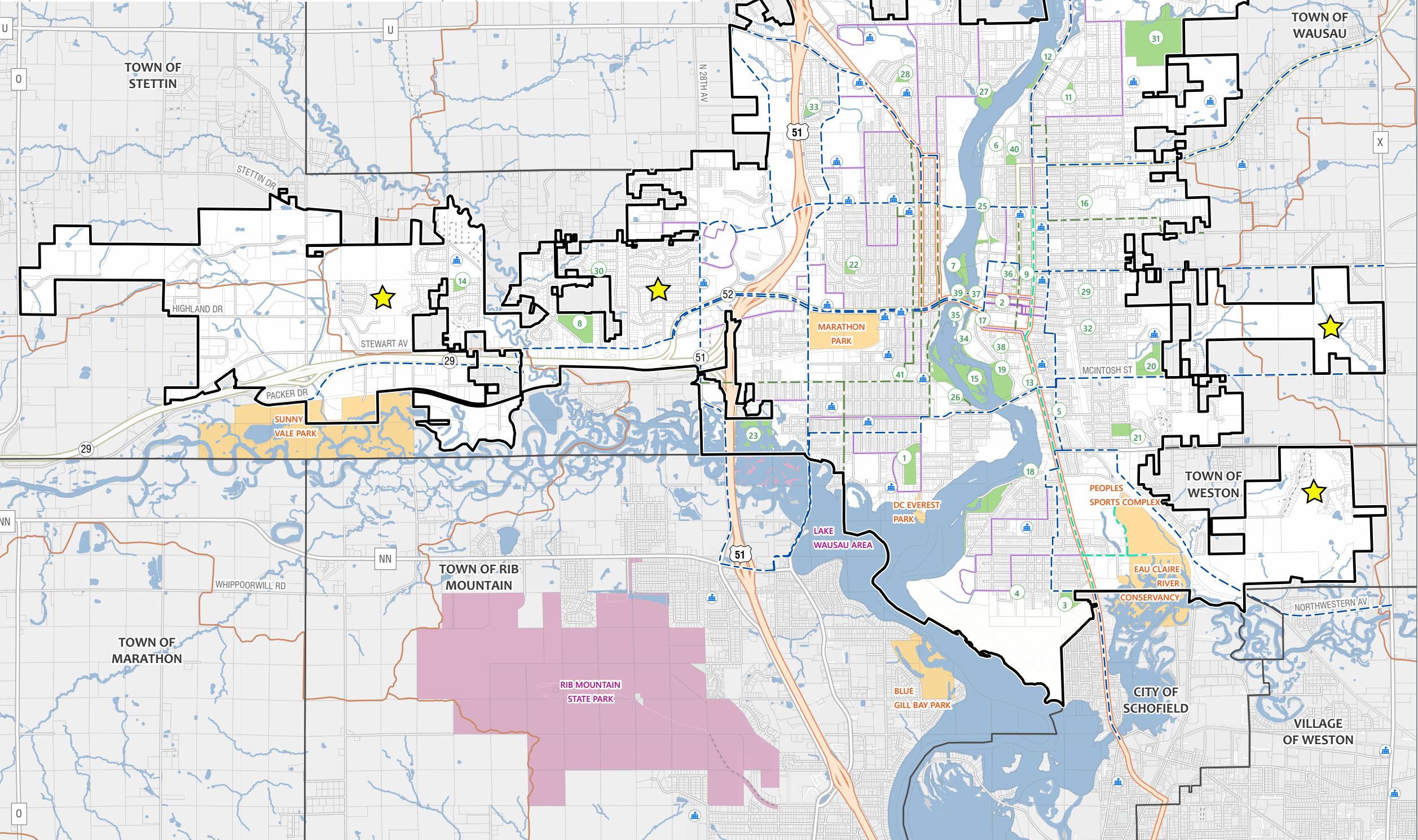
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Notes

West Hill Subdivision Proposed Location

Print Date: 10/26/2022
 Printed By: smorrison, File: C:\Users\smorrison\OneDrive - MSA Professional Services, Inc\Desktop\GIS Junk Folder\PlannerProjects\Wausau\WausauCORP6_Pro_WausauCORP6.aprx

ID	Park Name	ID	Park Name	ID	Park Name
1	3M PARK	16	KAISER PARK	30	SWIDERSKI PARK
2	400 BLOCK PARK	17	MCINDOE PARK	31	SYLVAN HILL PARK
3	AIRPORT SPORTS PARK	18	MEMORIAL PARK	32	TENTH STREET PARK
4	ALEXANDER AIRPORT PARK	19	OAK ISLAND BALL PARK	33	WESTVIEW TERRACE PARK
5	ANNE'S TOT LOT	20	PAFF WOODS PRESERVE	34	WHITE WATER PARK
6	ATHLETIC PARK	21	PLEASANT VIEW PARK	35	WOODSON PARK
7	BARKER STEWART ISLAND PARK	22	RESERVOIR PARK	36	YAWKEY PARK
8	BROCKMYER PARK	23	RIB RIVER PARK	37	KICKBUSCH PLAZA
9	CITY HALL PARK	24	RIVER HIGHLANDS PARK	38	TWO HEARTS DOG PARK
11	FOREST PARK	25	RIVERLIFE PARK	39	BIG BULLS PARK
12	GILBERT PARK	26	RIVERSIDE PARK	40	BOILEAU PARK
13	HAMMOND PARK	27	SCHOLFIELD PARK	41	LINCOLN NEIGHBORHOOD TOT LOT
14	HORGEN PARK	28	SCHULENBURG PARK		
15	ISLE OF FERNS PARK	29	STEWART PARK		



Proposed Parks Map

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
 - Local Bike Route
 - Regional Bike Route
 - Accomodate Bike Route
 - Bus Route
 - Snowmobile Trails
 - City of Wausau
 - Surrounding Municipality
- Park Type
- Municipal Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area
 - General Proposed Park Location

Data Sources:
Marathon County GIS (2022)
Basemap: ESRI



DATE: July 6, 2026
TO: Parks & Recreation Committee
SUBJECT: Riverlife Wharf Funding

PURPOSE

2027 Budgeting for Riverlife Wharfs

BACKGROUND

The Riverlife wharf docks are difficult to install and remove due to the heavy current in that section of the Wisconsin River. Neither the City nor the County have adequate equipment to safely install or remove the docks. In 2025 and 2026 the department has contracted the installation and removal with a private company. The cost in 2026 is \$8750.00, an increase of \$6,000 from 2025. The increase is due to the difficulty the company experienced in 2025.

During the development of the 2026 budget the cost of the dock installation was removed from the general operating budget as a budget reduction. The council determined that the cost to install and remove the docks would be taken from the department's small project budget. The small project fund is meant to complete smaller, non-CIP deferred maintenance projects. Reducing the small project fund by \$8750.00 requires a deferred maintenance project to be delayed another year.

The docks are used occasionally. However, they are not used to the extent anticipated when they were designed due to the limited boating activity and residents on the section of the river north of the dam. There are currently 7 docks installed at the wharf including 2 accessible kayak launches.

Prior to the development of the 2027 budget, the committee should determine if the docks should be installed in 2027 as they have been, if only a portion of the docks will be installed or another option.

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks and Recreation Committee should provide staff with direction on funding the dock installation and removal for 2027.



Park & Recreation Committee 7/6/2026

Urban Forestry Update

Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

- Plan updated in 2021 to remove and replace all ash over 12-15 year period.
- 3340 Tracked Ash Removals to June 2026
 - Average 417/year
- 3040 Inventoried Ash remaining
 - Additional ash in non-inventoried wooded ROW's
 - Goal is to remove 350 per year moving forward
- Injections of Mectinite are on a 3-year rotating basis
 - West portion of the City being injected in 2026
 - 771 Injected in 2025, Approx 900 to be injected in 2026
 - Each year the numbers in the section reduce as removals are completed
 - 710 Trees not being injected remain. Focused removals on these trees
 - Each year, less trees injected as we thin the population which in turn allows for more removals and replacements
- NOTE: If residents want to keep the ash in the boulevard/terrace – they may pay to have them injected. Resident must contact the City Forester.

Tree Planting

- 970 Trees Planted 2025
- 540 Planted 2024
- 644 Grant funded plantings to date

Pruning

- Focus on small tree structure and train pruning
 - Shaping the future urban forest
- Respond to all resident requests
- Block pruning has not been completed in several years due to EAB and staffing

Grant Update

\$498,482.08 non-matching grant – ends September 30, 2027.

Work completed to date:

- Tree Planting
 - 644 Trees planted in terraces/boulevards in 2025 & 2026
 - Continuing to contract with Legacy Tree
 - Replacing trees lost due to EAB, storms and attrition
- Private Ash Removal
 - 135 Private ash trees removed
 - Residents extremely happy to receive assistance
 - Very difficult to get new applicants
 - \$29,475 left for private removal
- Wausau School Tree Planting
 - Conducted the first classroom and planting session with GD Jones Elementary.
 - 3rd and 5th grades students – teaches and students very involved and excited
 - Rex Zemke – school Ground Maintenance Supervisor coordinating all work with schools
 - Plan to run programs and plantings as multiple schools in Fall 2026 and Spring 2027

Invasives Update

‘Big 3’ invasives we face: Japanese knotweed, garlic mustard and buckthorn (Wild Parsnip is being found sporadically).

- City of Wausau Inspections Dept houses the official Weed Commission for the City.
- Different modes of control
 - Physical removal, chemical application & goat grazing are currently utilized

- Japanese knotweed control on ROW's and private property is the Parks largest action item
 - Extremely difficult to control – typically requires multiple years
- Buckthorn is removed during the course of other work or as needed.
 - Very prevalent and readily sprout from seedbank in soil
- Garlic Mustard is hand pulled in late spring prior to seeds maturing.
 - Fast spreading and is moved by animals
 - Problem in our County Forests as well as City Parks
- Current large scale removal is completed through volunteer groups
 - Example: Spring 2026 – A Wausau Montessori school group wanted to complete an environmental project that gave back to the community. We organized a community work-day in Pleasantview Park to remove garlic mustard and buckthorn. Students and families were excellent to work with and much work was completed. This will serve as a template moving forward.
- Continued large-scale removal projects such as these will require outside labor.

City of Wausau
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

Updated October 2021

EAB HOTLINE 1-800-462-2803

or

www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov

Acknowledgements

“This document was funded in part by an Urban Forestry Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Program as authorized under s. 23.097, Wis. Stat.”

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Introduction:

In 2002 the Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) or (EAB) was first discovered in Michigan near Detroit. Since that time it has spread to many other states. In August of 2008, EAB was confirmed in southeastern Wisconsin for the first time. Since then the insect has been confirmed in sixty-one counties. EAB was discovered in Wausau November of 2020.

For a complete History of the Emerald Ash Borer along with Description, Life Cycle, Signs, Symptoms (includes national and Wisconsin information)

www.emeraldashborer.info

Purpose of Management Plan

The provisions of this management plan are an attempt to mitigate the disruption to the urban forest caused by EAB. By taking a proactive approach to the eventual infestation the city will try to address this issue in an efficient and effective manner.

Authority to Act

Defined by Wausau Municipal Code, Chapter 12.56 Street Trees

Public Ash Resources at Risk:

In March of 2007 the City of Wausau completed an inventory of the ash tree population to determine the number and percentage of ash trees that comprised the total street tree population. The inventory revealed a total of just under 6,200 ash trees or approximately 25% of the street tree population. As of September 2021, there have been 1,843 ash street trees removed and most have been replaced. This still leaves a current population of 4,357 trees or 17.7% of the street tree population.

Number of trees

1"-6" - 279
6"-12" – 1,554
>12" – 2,524
Total = 4,357

The value of boulevard ash is \$3.16 million based on landscape value.

The total annual ecological benefits provided by the remaining ash trees is \$554,349.97.

The replacement cost of the ash trees is \$697,120 not including labor.

The approximate removal cost of the remaining ash trees is \$1,371,409.50 (tree removal, stump removal)

Tree condition – 33 poor, 3,917 good, and 407 very good.

2,844 trees are of a size and condition suitable for treatment. Treatment costs would be approximately \$44,000 per year.

The maintained or mowed portions of the Wausau City Parks have a total of approximately 276 ash trees. Non-maintained areas were not inventoried.

Number of trees

1"-6" - 18
6"-12" - 72
>12" – 45
Total = 135

The value of the park ash trees is \$83,295 based on landscape value.

The total annual ecological benefits provided by the remaining ash trees is \$12,863.73.

The replacement cost of the park trees is \$21,600.

The approximate removal cost of the remaining ash trees is \$33,534 (tree removal, stump removal)

The city is not considering a treatment option for park trees at this time.

Assessment of Staff training and Equipment needs:

Staff training for EAB identification and detection is ongoing and will continue.

Equipment needs are being evaluated and assessed on an ongoing basis. The department has added a brush chipper with the capacity to handle larger diameter wood. The department has requested an additional arborist position to maintain service levels prior to EAB detection. Additional funds have also been requested due to the detection of EAB and direction given by Park Committee to remove and replace all boulevard ash within the next 12-15 years. Park staff is at or above maximum capacity to accommodate additional tree removals at this time. Since the additional removals from EAB will be relatively consistent over this time, contracting would be the most prudent method to handle additional removals which corresponds to the request for increased funding.

Scope:

This plan will encompass the city limits of the City of Wausau.

Administration of Plan:

This plan will be administered by the City of Wausau Park Department the main contact is the Park Forester (715-261-1561)

Ash Management Recommendations:

Pre-EAB

The City of Wausau has taken a proactive approach to EAB. Upon hearing of EAB in Michigan in 2002 and monitoring the progress of EAB through professional trade publications and internet research for an appropriate time period, ash trees were no longer planted after the spring of 2004. In 2007 all public ash trees were inventoried and recorded.

As part of our urban forestry program we are routinely assessing the tree population and removing poor quality trees of all species. Initial removal of ash trees followed the same criteria and were restricted to those in poor condition, those in poor planting sites and ash growing under overhead electrical wires. Requests from homeowners to remove trees for various reasons were evaluated as in the past but were generally granted to reduce the ash tree population. These criteria did not allow for a significant reduction of the ash population.

Prioritized preemptive Removal:

In 2009 a more focused effort was used to reduce the number of ash trees by removing ash trees impacted by street construction projects. This practice still continues and has become more focused with the removal of all of the ash trees on street construction projects. In 2010 ash trees that were identified that had poor structure for various reasons (crowding, etc.) were targeted for removal, this process is ongoing. Electrical line clearance contractors have been encouraged to aggressively target ash trees growing under high voltage lines. In late 2011 residents and businesses along streets with heavy ash populations were contacted and informed that every other ash tree would be removed. Identified trees were generally in the smaller size classes with poor condition trees targeted. Removals occurred during winter months, stumps were removed in the following spring and summer. Tree replacement is being scheduled as needed. Many areas were over planted or trees were planted in poor locations and additional trees will need to be removed for better tree placement. In 2020 there were very low snow conditions enabling crews to conduct ash removals in parks. Approximately 140 ash trees were removed from parks winter of 2020/2021.

The department provided updated information to the Park Committee regarding finding EAB damage in a boulevard tree. The find was in November, 2020 which called for a revised plan to address ash trees in Wausau. The result of this meeting was that the department will move forward with removal and replacement of all boulevard ash within 12-15 years starting in 2022.

Post EAB

After confirmation of EAB in Marathon County or the City of Wausau the County will have quarantines placed on it in accordance to the State of Wisconsin response guidelines. USDA and DATCP will work with State officials, and affected communities and industries to minimize the impact of quarantines. State regulations would need to be followed on movement of wood products and all options for mitigating EAB impact would need to be reexamined.

Detection Methods:

Detection methods utilized will be visual inspection of ash trees with symptoms consistent of EAB. Ash trees to inspect will be determined by observation of Park staff, contact received by citizens and private tree services. Suspect trees will be further tested by branch bark peeling and looking for EAB larvae.

Marshalling Yard

At this time the City of Wausau Yard Waste site is the only location for residents to dispose of brush and wood waste. The yard waste site is located on the 100 block of Chellis St. adjacent to the Department of Public Works. The site is approximately 1/1/2 acres in size and will be inadequate when EAB fully impacts the City of Wausau. There have been discussions with public officials and the Public Works Director on the need for larger and or alternate sites for public use. When EAB becomes established in the area this issue will be re-addressed and a single larger or number of smaller alternate sites will be designated.

Prioritized Treatment Schedule:

Our current inventory has identified ash that are a priority for chemical treatment. The objective to treatment is to prolong the life of treated trees and not to maintain the tree long-term. Treatment will be budget dependent. The City of Wausau will allow resident to contract with private parties to treat public trees that have not been identified for treatment by park staff.

Utilization/Disposal Methods:

The city has in the past and will continue to research and support alternate wood waste utilization. The sale and processing of quality logs into useable lumber for construction, furniture, flooring, etc. has been used for several years. Sale of lower quality logs for firewood use pulpwood and boiler fuel has been an option that we have used in the past and will continue.

With the construction and opening of the We Energies biomass plant in Rothschild a large percentage of wood debris from the City of Wausau Street and park tree system will be converted to biofuel. WE Energies consultants have been in contact with the City of Wausau on the volume of wood products that would be available and delivery alternatives. The proximity of this facility to Wausau may provide a mutually beneficial relationship for our chipped material

as well as low quality and oversized wood that is difficult to market. In 2020 the City Forester reached out to a private contractor for utilization of urban ash trees. This partnership has resulted in increased wood sales and a higher level of utilization. Lastly, the Wausau School District has purchased a portable mill and will be using some of Wausau's wood to fulfill curriculum needs.

Tree Replacement:

Tree species to replace ash are being considered and introduced to the Wausau Street and Park tree system. Replacement of public trees removed will be with non-host species that are appropriate to the physical site.

This list will be updated as new species are proven successful and is not inclusive.

Tree replacement will be determined by budget but will generally be in the fall or spring after trees have been removed.

Species

Crabapple

 'Spring Snow'

 'Pinkspire'

 'Velvet Pillar'

Elm

 'New Horizon'

 'Regal'

 'Triumph'

Ginko

 'Autumn Gold'

 'Princeton Sentry'

Hackberry

Hawthorn

 'Cockspur'

Kentucky Coffeetree

 'Espresso'

Lilac

 'Beijing Gold'

 'Ivory Silk'

 'Summer Charm'

Linden

 'American Sentry'

'Boulevard'
'Greenspire'
'Glenleven'
'Redmond'
Honeylocust
'Shademaster'
'Skyline'
Maackia Amur
'Starburst'
'Summertime'
Magnolia
'Merrill'
Manchurian Alder
'Prairie Horizon'
Oak
'Northern Pin'
'Regal Prince'
'Swamp White'
Pear
Callery
'Chanticleer'
River Birch
Serviceberry
'Autumn Brilliance'

Reporting and Submitting EAB Suspects and Samples:

HOTLINE: 1-800-462-2803

E-MAIL: eab@datcp.state.wi.us

Insect samples will be forwarded to DATCP

WI Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

**2811 Agriculture Drive
Madison, WI 53718-6777**

How to Collect and Preserve Insect Specimens

(Do not send live insects)

www.entomology.wisc.edu

Summary:

With EAB detected in the City of Wausau and Marathon County, this document will need to be updated as new infestations are discovered and new treatment and management options are developed. Public officials have been updated at staff and committee meetings and will be updated as the need arises. The general public will continue to be updated on EAB through the city newsletter, radio, newspaper articles and local access public radio announcements.

Definitions:

DATCP – The state of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Agency responsible for the State of Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer response plan. Authority to issue quarantines that restrict the movement of EAB infected material.

EAB – The emerald ash borer insect.

Marshalling Yard – Fenced in location where infested brush and logs are collected for further processing.

Preemptive Removal – Tree removal prior to becoming infested.

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture.



Parks, Recreation, Forestry

DATE: July 6, 2026
TO: Parks & Recreation Committee
SUBJECT: Maintenance Contract with Central Wisconsin Offroad Cycling Coalition for Sylvan Hill Bike Trails

PURPOSE

Maintenance contract approval with Central Wisconsin Offroad Cycling Coalition CWOCC for Sylvan Hill bike trails.

BACKGROUND

The City has worked with CWOCC for a number of years to establish the bike trails at Sylvan Hill Park. CWOCC utilizes volunteers to assist the City in maintaining the trails. Prior to now, the agreement between the City and CWOCC was a verbal agreement. However, the County recently developed an agreement with CWOCC to maintain the trails at Nine Mile County Forest and Recreation Area that assisted the department in clarifying expectations of both CWOCC and the department.

It is recommended that the City also develop an agreement with CWOCC for the bike trails at Sylvan Hill park that clarifies the expectations and provides CWOCC with guidance on the trail maintenance expectations. A draft agreement is attached that is being reviewed by the City Attorney.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to recommend approval of the agreement with CWOCC for the maintenance of the Sylvan Hill bike trails contingent on the City Attorney's review.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN WAUSAU/MARATHON COUNTY
PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT AND
CENTRAL WISCONSIN OFF-ROAD CYCLING COALITION**

MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR SEASONAL PARK USE

This AGREEMENT entered into this _____ day of _____, 2026, by and between the Wausau/Marathon County Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, a department of Marathon County of the State of Wisconsin working on behalf of the City of Wausau, Wisconsin, hereinafter referred to as, "**DEPARTMENT**", with a business address of 518 South 7th Ave, Room 085, Wausau, WI 54401 and the Central Wisconsin Off-Road Cycling Coalition, hereinafter referred to as "**CWOCC**", with a business address of P.O. Box 745, Wausau, WI 54402, to utilize certain areas of Sylvan Hill Park property for the purpose of using and maintaining a summer off-road bicycling course as described more fully in this agreement.

Based upon mutual consideration set forth herein, it is hereby agreed by and between the City of Wausau, by the **DEPARTMENT**, and **CWOCC** as follows:

This AGREEMENT and its terms shall commence upon the execution of this AGREEMENT and shall continue in effect until December 31st, 2031, or until the appointment of a new president of CWOCC, whichever occurs first. After this period, the AGREEMENT shall automatically renew for successive five-year terms or until a new president of CWOCC assumes office, unless terminated earlier by either party. The **DEPARTMENT** may, for its convenience, terminate this agreement at any time by a notice in writing, from the **DEPARTMENT**, to **CWOCC**, by Certified Mail.

1. **CWOCC** will have the use of the following within Sylvan Hill Park:
 - A. The single-track trail system during the summer riding season (See Appendix A and B)
 - B. A maximum 16'X16' storage shed placed on site at Sylvan Hill Park at no charge.
2. **CWOCC** specifically agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local codes, statutes, laws, regulations, and ordinances, and to obtain all necessary permits.
3. **CWOCC** agrees to keep the premises and bike trail systems in a clean, neat condition.
4. All receipts generated from the season and daily passes will be deposited as revenues to the City of Wausau as indicated in the **DEPARTMENT**'s city budget to be used at the discretion of the **DEPARTMENT**.
5. **CWOCC** agrees to make no additions, alterations or changes to the buildings, or bike trail systems in or on the premises without the prior written approval of the **DEPARTMENT**. All requests must maintain the character of the forested area and employ best management practices in stormwater management.
6. **CWOCC** agrees to the following:
 - A. To provide ongoing maintenance of established single track mountain biking trails including, but not limited to upgrading slopes, managing herbaceous growth, upgrading trail deck, and keeping signs in good working order.
 - B. To install and maintain all signs including but not limited to; all summer trail signs at intersections and other areas as needed.

- C. **CWOCC** will assist the **DEPARTMENT** in the designing of the bike trail maps. **CWOCC** and the **DEPARTMENT** shall each pay 50% of the costs to have maps professionally designed.
 - D. To schedule any **CWOCC** or **CWOCC** sponsored event with the **DEPARTMENT** no less than thirty days prior to the use of the facilities.
 - E. To provide a maximum of two points of contact to the **DEPARTMENT** for ongoing communications.
7. **DEPARTMENT** agrees to provide:
- A. A gravel surface parking area.
 - B. Maintenance of **DEPARTMENT** property.
 - C. Occasional support to **CWOCC** for the removal of down trees and large limbs. Any assistance will be as staffing is available and at the approval of the **DEPARTMENT** Director or operations supervisors.
 - D. Off-road cycling trail information on the **DEPARTMENT** website including a link to the **CWOCC** website.
 - E. Occasional use of Marathon County owned equipment upon request and approval of the **DEPARTMENT**.
 - F. Pay for the printing of public maps.
8. By virtue of its **AGREEMENT** with the **DEPARTMENT**, a public entity, **CWOCC** agrees to comply with all federal, state and local laws, statues, codes and ordinances, including, but not limited to because of enumeration, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Wisconsin Equal Rights law and the Americans with Disabilities Act. In connection with the performance of work under this **AGREEMENT**, **CWOCC** agrees that no qualified individual with a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation and the benefits of services, programs, or activities, including employment, or be subjected to discrimination. **CWOCC** is specifically notified that it is subject to all employment requirements listed under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act by virtue of its **AGREEMENT** with Marathon County a public entity. **CWOCC** is specifically notified that it is subject to federal requirements to assure participation and access to public facilities, programs, and activities under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act by virtue of its **AGREEMENT** with Marathon County, a public entity. These requirements mandate separate or special programs or reasonable modification of existing programs, services, and activities without surcharge to disabled individuals as long as safety is not compromised. **CWOCC** shall provide a similar notice to subcontractors.
9. **CWOCC** shall not commence use of premises under this **AGREEMENT** until all insurance required under this paragraph is obtained, and such insurance has been approved by the **DEPARTMENT**, nor shall **CWOCC** allow any subcontractor to commence use of premises until all similar insurance requirements have been obtained and approved.
- A. **Worker's Compensation Insurance.** **CWOCC** shall obtain and maintain throughout the duration of this **AGREEMENT** statutory Worker's Compensation insurance for all of its employees

employed at Sylvan Hill Park..

B. General Liability, Professional Liability and Property Damage Insurance. CWOCC shall secure and maintain in force throughout the duration of this AGREEMENT such General Liability, Professional Liability and Property Damage Insurance as shall protect him/her and any sub-user covered by this AGREEMENT from claims for damages for personal injuries including accidental death, as well as from claims for property damage, which may arise from use under this AGREEMENT, whether such use be by CWOCC or by any sub-user or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them; and the amount of such insurance shall be as follows:

- Comprehensive General Liability \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate for Bodily Injury and Property Damage.
 - Automobile Liability \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.
10. CWOCC shall furnish the DEPARTMENT with a Certificate of Insurance countersigned by a Wisconsin Resident Agent or Authorized Representative of the insurer indicating that CWOCC meets the insurance requirements identified above. To name the DEPARTMENT and MARATHON COUNTY and CITY OF WAUSAU, as "Additional Insured" in respect to this AGREEMENT. The carrier of insurance shall be approved by the DEPARTMENT and shall include a provision prohibiting cancellation of said policies except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the DEPARTMENT. A copy of the Certificate of Insurance shall be delivered to the DEPARTMENT no later than fifteen (15) working days prior to the commencement of this AGREEMENT.
 11. In the event of any damage or destruction to said premises caused by CWOCC, its members, its employees, its patrons, or those using the facility during the times when the facility is being used pursuant to this AGREEMENT, the person or persons causing the damage or destruction shall be primarily liable for said damage or destruction. CWOCC however agrees to reimburse the DEPARTMENT for any and all expenses incurred in repairing and/or restoring and/or reconstructing the premises if said damage or destruction was caused by anyone using the facility pursuant to this AGREEMENT who is a member, employee, patron or participant in the activity sponsored by CWOCC and in the event said individual(s) is not financially responsible.
 12. CWOCC, hereby agrees to release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless City of Wausau, the DEPARTMENT, their officials, officers, employees and agents from and against all judgments, damages, penalties, losses, costs, claims, expenses, suits, demands, debts, actions and/or causes of action of any type or nature whatsoever, including actual and reasonable attorney's fees, which may be sustained or to which they may be exposed, directly or indirectly, by reason of personal injury, death, property damage, or other liability, alleged or proven, resulting from or arising out of the performance of contractor, its officers, officials, employees, agent or assigns. City of Wausau does not waive, and specifically reserves, its right to assert any and all affirmative defenses and limitations of liability as specifically set forth in Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 893 and related statutes.
 13. This AGREEMENT shall not be assignable or otherwise transferable, or any part of the premises sublet by CWOCC, unless permission is given by the DEPARTMENT or its authorized agent.
 14. This AGREEMENT represents the entire AGREEMENT by and between the undersigned parties, and no other conditions may be implied or inferred. This AGREEMENT may be amended only by written amendment duly signed by all parties. This AGREEMENT replaces, supersedes and invalidates all prior AGREEMENT by and between the parties herein concerning use of the park facilities described in this AGREEMENT.

15. The **DEPARTMENT** may, for its convenience, terminate this AGREEMENT at any time by a notice in writing, from the **DEPARTMENT**, to **CWOCC** by certified mail. If the AGREEMENT is terminated by the **DEPARTMENT** as provided herein, **DEPARTMENT** shall be paid for time the facility was actually used prior to termination.
16. **CWOCC** is an independent contractor and not an employee of the **DEPARTMENT** and **CWOCC** assumes responsibility for any liability which may arise out of the use of Sylvan Hill Park. This AGREEMENT shall not be assignable or otherwise transferable or any part of the premises sublet without prior written approval of the **DEPARTMENT**.
17. **CWOCC** agrees that the management and administration of Sylvan Hill Park is wholly and exclusively under the jurisdiction of the **DEPARTMENT** or its administrative representatives and that, in the event of any dispute as to the meaning of any of the terms of this agreement, the **DEPARTMENT**, Director or authorized agent shall define said terms and conditions subject to the rights of the parties herein, as further set forth in this AGREEMENT.
18. The **DEPARTMENT** reserves the right to enter upon premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of inspection and making repairs and improvements as it shall deem necessary.
19. If any provision of this AGREEMENT is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the AGREEMENT continue in full force and effect.
20. It shall be unethical for any person to offer, give, or agree to give any elected official, employee or former employee, or for any elected official, employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer for employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the contents of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceedings or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore.

It shall be unethical for any payment, gratuity, or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or a higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract, or order.

21. Notwithstanding anything contained in this AGREEMENT to the contrary, no Event or Default shall be deemed to have occurred under this AGREEMENT if adequate funds are not appropriated during a subsequent fiscal period during the term of the AGREEMENT so as to enable the **DEPARTMENT** to meet its obligations hereunder, and at least thirty (30) days written notice of the non-appropriation is given to **CWOCC**.
22. **CWOCC** hereby certifies that neither it nor any of its principal officers or officials have ever been suspended or debarred, for any reason whatsoever, from doing business or entering into contractual relationships with any governmental entity. **CWOCC** further agrees and certifies that this clause shall be included in any subcontract of this contract.

The undersigned parties by their signatures attest that they are duly authorized by their respective organizations to enter into this AGREEMENT:

23. Trail Openings and Closings:
 - A. Summer bike trails will open between May 1 – May 15 as determined by the **DEPARTMENT**,

depending on trail conditions, and close when conditions become unsafe.

- B. Trails can be closed at any time as determined by the **DEPARTMENT** and notice will be given to **CWOCC** as soon as possible.

**WAUSAU AND MARATHON COUNTY PARKS
RECREATION AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT**
518 N 7th Avenue, Rm 085, Wausau, WI 54401-5476

**CENTRAL WISCONSIN OFF-ROAD
CYCLING COALITION**

Jamie Polley

Director

Signature

Date

Mailing Address

Name (please print)

Title (please print)

Signature

Date

CITY OF WAUSAU - MAYOR
407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403

Doug Diny

Mayor

Signature

Date

CITY OF WAUSAU - CLERK
407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403

Rachel Brown

Clerk

Signature

Date

O:\NEW PKDATA\Admin\Contracts\Mulityear\CWOCC\26-31 Sylvan Season



Parks, Recreation, Forestry

DATE: July 6, 2026
TO: Parks & Recreation Committee
SUBJECT: Park Updates (City Ball Diamonds, Athletic Park, Alexander Airport, Brockmeyer, Isle of the Ferns, Kaiser Pool, Oak Island, Riverlife, Yawkey, Mowing)

PURPOSE

Update on park projects

BACKGROUND

City Ball Diamonds

* The green space at Airport Sports Park will be unavailable for a while as it is used for overflow parking for the events at the airport.

Athletic Park:

- The part to repair the platform lift is expected to be installed Thursday this week. A few long-term solutions for the lift are being evaluated.
- The athletic scoreboard was damaged during a woodchuck's game. The department's electrician was able to make repairs and get the scoreboard operational.

Alexander Airport:

- A memorial bench pad has been installed and the bench will follow shortly.
- The neighborhood group has donated airplane signs for the park and they have been installed.

Brockmeyer:

- The water line servicing the restrooms and irrigation has been replaced. This will make winterization easier and we should not have issues with additional broken pipes.

Isle of the Ferns:

- A memorial bench pad has been poured and the bench installation will follow shortly.

Kaiser Pool:

- Repairs of the enclosed slide feed line have been made by France Plumbing to repair a coupler that cracked and broke.
- Repairs have also been made to the slide stairs. The fiberglass stairs are failing and beginning to split, creating a trip/cut hazard. The planned fix is to have our contractor, Fischer Brothers fabricate new fiberglass stair covers for the affected stairs. Additional stair covers will need to be done before next pool season.

Oak Island:

- One of the bike share stations will be relocated to Oak Island. Staff poured the pad for the station and it is ready for bike system to be installed.
- A memorial bench pad has been poured along the playground.

Riverlife:

*Riverlife irrigation has an electrical issue that we are working on getting fixed. The whole system is currently down.

Yawkey:

- The water meter is located on YMCA property due to the transfer of the old ROW property to the YMCA. The Public Works Director is working with Wausau Water to determine whether the meter will be moved onto City property.

Mowing:

* Mowing crews are at about a 10-day turnaround with mowing locations as the growth of the grass has slowed down a bit mid-summer,

RECOMMENDATION

No action is recommended.